

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Toshiaki MATSUNAGA et al.

Appln. No.: Not yet designated

Group Art Unit: Not yet designated

Confirmation No.: Not yet designated

Examiner: Not yet designated

Filed: August 7, 2001

For: COATING FOR WATER BLOCKING AGENTS, SHEET PILE AND STEEL TUBULAR  
PIPE FOR WATER BLOCKING CONSTRUCTION, AND WATER BLOCKING  
CONSTRUCTION

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

which is incorporated herein by reference.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please enter the following amended claims:**

5. (amended) A water blocking construction method which comprises utilizing

(1) a coating for water blocking agents comprising a water-absorbing resin (a), a  
hydrophilic binder resin (b) and a solvent (c) as essential components, wherein said hydrophilic  
binder resin (b) has an acid value of 40 mg KOH/g to 500 mg KOH/g or

(2) a sheet pile and/or steel tubular pipe for water blocking construction methods wherein  
the coating for water blocking agents according to (1) has been applied thereto.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Atty. Docket No.: Q65438

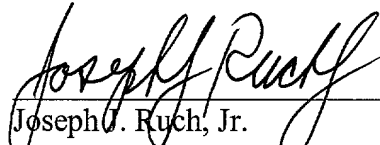
**REMARKS**

Claim 5 have been amended to place the claims in desired appropriate form for examination. Thus all of the claims are now in appropriate form, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with the examination.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may facilitate the further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joseph J. Ruch, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,577

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,  
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: August 7, 2001

**APPENDIX**

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**The claims are amended as follows:**

5. (amended) A water blocking construction method which comprises utilizing

(1) a coating for water blocking agents according to Claim 1 comprising a water-  
absorbing resin (a), a hydrophilic binder resin (b) and a solvent (c) as essential components,  
wherein said hydrophilic binder resin (b) has an acid value of 40 mg KOH/g to 500 mg KOH/g,  
and/or the or

(2) a sheet pile and/or steel tubular pipe for water blocking construction methods  
according to Claim 4 wherein the coating for water blocking agents according to (1) has been  
applied thereto.